



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

ICE RETURNS 'ONE-MAN CRIME WAVE' TO DUTCH AUTHORITIES

BLOOMINGTON, Minn.— U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detention and Removal officers today turned over to Dutch authorities an illegal alien who is wanted in Netherlands for completion of a jail sentence for a conviction there.

Rene Albert Walter Antonius Van Rooij, 40, of Netherlands, entered the U.S. as a visitor April 13.

During the next six months, he amassed a significant criminal record in the United States that included two convictions for driving while intoxicated, a conviction for domestic assault and a conviction for felony criminal damage to property for kicking out the window of a police squad car. He also violated his visitor status by staying in the U.S. beyond his allowed 90 days.



To top it off, ICE special agents discovered Van Rooij in Carver County jail after he had been arrested for violating a protection order. A check with Dutch authorities revealed that he was wanted in Netherlands.

“This guy was a one-man crime wave,” said Field Office Director Scott Baniecke of ICE’s Detention and Removal Operations (DRO). “His handoff to Dutch authorities today is a prime example of what can be accomplished with cooperation among law enforcement agencies both here and abroad.” Baniecke oversees the DRO program for the five-state area.

During fiscal year 2004, which ended Sept. 30, ICE detention and removal officers removed 3,152 criminal aliens and status violators from a five-state area that includes Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and Iowa. Of that number, 1,488 were classified as criminal aliens, having been convicted of such crimes as drug offenses, assault and battery, armed robbery, rape, and fraud, among others. The remainder, 1,664, had committed administrative immigration law violations.

NOTE: For a JPEG digital image file of Van Rooij, please contact Tim Counts at 952-853-2602 or via e-mail at Tim.Counts@dhs.gov.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security.